

Remarks

Status of Claims

Claims 4-9 are pending in the application. Claims 1-3 have been cancelled. Claims 4 and 6 have been amended to include the material in claims 1-3. No new matter has been added. Claims 7-9 are allowed.

Claims 4 and 5 were objected to, but the Examiner indicated that they would be allowable if amended to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 4 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and the intervening claims. Claim 5 is dependent from claim 4 and is therefore considered to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-3 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being unpatentable over Caldwell et al. Claims 1-3 are hereby cancelled and claim 6 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 1-3.

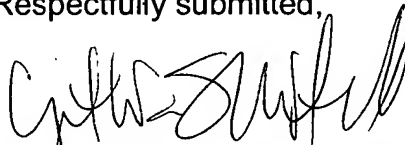
The Examiner's rejections of the claims are considered moot in light of the present amendments. Accordingly, claims 4-9 are now considered to be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully believed that claims 4-9 are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this amendment, or should the Examiner believe that it would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



November 17, 2004

Cynthia Mitchell, Reg. No. 36,081
Agilent Technologies, Inc.
Legal Department, DL 429
P.O. Box 7599
Loveland, Colorado 80537-0599
Tel.: (970) 679-3136
Fax: (970) 679-5772